

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2020-238-T – ORDER NO. 20__ - ____
_____,20__

IN	Application of Budget Movers of)	ORDER GRANTING
RE:	Augusta, Inc. for a Class E)	CLASS E HOUSEHOLD
	(Household Goods) Certificate of)	GOODS CERTIFICATE
	Public Convenience and Necessity for)	STATEWIDE
	Operation of Motor Vehicle Carrier)	AUTHORITY

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Application of Budget Movers of Augusta, Inc. (“Applicant” or “Budget Movers”) for a Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPC&N”). Applicant seeks a CPC&N with authority to move household goods throughout the state. Notice of this Application was timely published pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-132 on October 14, 2020. No third parties intervened, and a hearing on the Application was held on December 17, 2020.

The parties at the hearing were the Applicant, represented by Charles L.A. Terreni, Esquire and the Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”), represented by Christopher M. Huber, Esquire. The ORS informed the Commission it did not oppose Budget Movers’ Application.

Budget Movers called its President, Jim Furlong as a witness. Mr. Furlong started Budget Movers in 2011 and has worked in the moving business since 1990. Mr. Furlong believes South Carolina’s rapid population growth will provide an

opportunity for his household goods moving business. Mr. Furlong plans to reach customers with advertising on Google, word of mouth, passing out promotional items at apartment complexes and self-storage units. Budget Movers also has a website maintained by an outside information technology company and market online.

Applicant is exempt from having a safety rating from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Mr. Furlong testified there are no complaints or judgments against him or Budget Movers; he has adequate equipment and facilities to provide moving services and has adequate financial resources. Budget Movers has appropriate insurance, as evidenced by certificates filed with its application. Applicant certified that it is familiar with and will comply with all applicable statutes and regulations. Mr. Furlong testified Budget Movers owns eight trucks and an SUV and plans to purchase more vehicles as needed. Budget Movers has nine employees and plans to hire additional workers for its South Carolina operations after appropriate background checks. Budget Movers has leased office space in Columbia, and plans to grow the business over the next five years, perhaps opening offices in Charleston and Greenville.

Applicant will use the tariff and bill of lading approved in with this application.

On December 14, 2020, Applicant moved to present shipper witness testimony by affidavit. The Commission granted this request by Order No. 2020-

132--H. Applicant offered the shipper witness affidavit testimony of Susan Keller Jackson. Ms. Jackson, a real estate agent with 23 years of experience in South Carolina testified South Carolina's housing market is strong. Ms. Jackson is frequently asked to recommend movers of household goods, and it can be difficult to find qualified movers who are dependable and experienced. Aff. ¶ 4. Ms. Jackson believes the public interest would be served by granting Budget Movers' application.

ORS did not prefile testimony but submitted a letter to the Commission on December 16, 2020, stating that ORS "is of the opinion that the Applicant will meet the requirements of fit, willing and able as required of a Household Goods Mover under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-133."

The Commission finds Budget Movers has demonstrated that it is fit, willing, and able to operate a household goods mover under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-23-330 and S.C. Code Reg. 103-133. We also find that the public convenience and necessity is not already being served by existing authorized services. Therefore, Budget Movers' Application for statewide authority should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The Application of Budget Movers of Augusta, Inc. for a Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is approved for the Applicant to transport household goods to points and places throughout the state.

2. The final Tariff and Bill of Lading are approved and attached hereto as Order Exhibit 1.

3. The Applicant shall file with the Office of Regulatory Staff the proper insurance, safety rating, and other information required by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-23-10 *et. seq.*, as amended, and by S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-100 through 103-241 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations for Motor Carriers, and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 38-400 through 38-503 of the Department of Public Safety's Rules and Regulations for Motor Carriers, as amended, within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, or within such additional time as may be authorized by the Commission.

4. Upon compliance with S. C. Code Section 58-23-10 *et seq.*, and the applicable regulations for Motor Carriers, a Certificate will be issued by the Office of Regulatory Staff authorizing the motor carrier services granted herein.

5. The motor carrier's services authorized by this Order will not be provided prior to compliance with the above-referenced requirements and receipt of a Certificate.

6. Failure of the Applicant to either 1) complete the certification process by complying with the Office of Regulatory Staff requirements within ninety (90) days of this Order, or 2) to request and obtain from the Commission additional time to comply with the requirements stated above, will cause this Order

granting the Application to be null and void, and the Application will be dismissed without prejudice. No further order of this Commission is necessary.

7. Under the two-month reporting requirement continued in Order No. 2014-443 (May 21, 2013), the ORS is requested to furnish the name and docket number of the Applicant to the Commission, should the Applicant fail to meet the present Order. If such notification is provided, the docket will be closed.

8. This Order will remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Justin T. Williams, Chairman

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk / Executive Director

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2020-238-T
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, **CARL E. BELL**, hereby certify that I have, on this **22nd day of December, 2020**, served the **PROPOSED ORDER for Budget Movers of Augusta, Inc.**, upon the parties listed below by email to the following person(s) and addresses:

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Columbia, South Carolina
December 22, 2020